



Postscript: The Art of Jazz

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Photographs / Images: portrait of James P Johnson, a print in John Falter's *Jazz from Life* portfolio



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A lifelong jazz aficionado, Nebraska-born artist John Falter incorporated his love of music into some of his art. This oil-on-wood portrait of James P. Johnson is featured as a print in Falter's *Jazz from Life* portfolio. Falter, a good amateur jazz musician, had plenty of reason to admire Johnson (1894-1955), a pioneer of the

"stride" style of playing. Jazz historians consider Johnson an important figure who bridged the ragtime and jazz eras. Here, Falter's subdued palette and generous use of neutral space gives the piece a meditative quality—the antithesis of the action-oriented works that he often created for advertisements and story illustrations. ✪

DAVID L. BRISTOW, EDITOR